

THE
ARTICLES
OF THE
FOUNDATION
OF
KING GEORGE'S College, &c.



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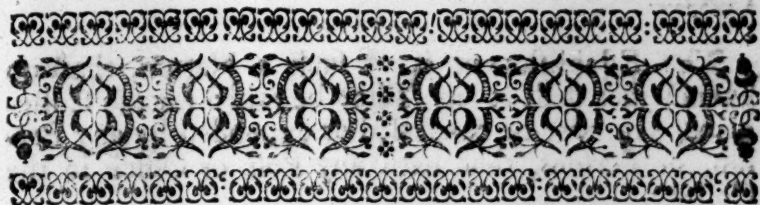
King *GEORGE*'s College,

That is to be open'd upon the Birth-
Day of Her ROYAL HIGHNESS
the Most Illustrious Princess of
WALE S.



L O N D O N :
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The ARTICLES of the Foundation of King GEORGE'S College.



HIS Hospital is established to relieve the Aged, the Sick, the Wounded, and the Incurable. It is also to give Sums of Money to Widows and Orphans, and industrious Persons, to put them into a way of living in time of Health.

These Persons are to be called the Collegians of *King's-College*; they are only to pay the Fees of the House, and the highest Fee is never to exceed Sixpence; no other Demands will be made upon them on any account whatever.

His most excellent Majesty King George, and the Prince, with the Nobility, Clergy, and Gentry, are elected Protectors and Stewards of this Body of Christians.

To endow this Foundation, Books will be opened to take in Subscriptions, and Collections will be made in Churches and Chapels, and in other Places of
divine

divine Worship, and at publick Feasts and Assemblies, besides Gifts and Legacies left by deceated Persons.

The Establishment is of such a Nature, that no Money that shall at any Time be raised for the Collegians, can ever be concealed or expended by any Person, or Persons, that hath any Post or Office in the College.

Here will be no Salaries, nor Rent, nor any Charge whatever, paid out of the Cash given for Charitable Uses, it is all wholly to be employ'd for that very End only.

The Donors of the said Charity, or their Assigns, are always to be the Treasurers, and to pay the Money with their own Hands, to such of the Collegians as they shall think to be the greatest Objects of Mercy.

These are the Minutes of the principal Heads of the Foundation of God's Hospital called *King's-College*.

The Work requires a Preface.

CHARITY is the regent Star of the Christian Religion, where that Planet rules, there inhabits a Soul which shines bright, tho' it be veiled with Clouds of many Errors.

Charity was the first Foundation of many of our Cathedrals, and Parish Churches; it hath established Universities, Colleges, and Hospitals.

Charity erects publick Schools and Almshouses, and gives Libraries of Books in several Languages to improve Divines, Physicians, Philosophers, and others, in the Study of those Arts and Sciences that they profess to practise.

Charity

Charity carries on the great Work of propagating the Gospel in Foreign Parts, and that of instructing the Youth at Home in the Rudiments of Vertue and Morality.

Charity encreases small Benefits, and entertains persecuted Strangers that come from Foreign Parts to seek for Refuge.

At the last Annual Feast of the Sons of the Clergy, and at the Rehearsal of their Anthems, Charity raised Six Hundred Pounds only for the Use of Cloathing and putting out Apprentice, the Sons and Daughters of Ministers of the Established Church.

Charity sets up Monuments of Marble, and engraves upon Tables of Steel to perpetuate the Memory of Martyrs that have expired in Flames, or in Furnaces of boyling Oil.

Charity raises Statues of Brass to decypher out the Lineaments of Heroes that have fought through Fire and Streams of Blood to vanquish the Fleets and Armies of Tyrants.

The Donors of these Charities their Names are enter'd in that Register where neither Envy nor Detraction can dash out the Letters; they will continue perfect in the long Age of a vast and endless Eternity.

Tho' *King's-College* is but a small Fabrick to what other Hospitals are, yet it will be the greatest Foundation, as to its extensive Charity, that is now to be found upon the Face of the whole Earth.

The Establishment will stand as long as Kings reign, and till the Globe of Nature falls into its primitive Chaos.

There is not one good Christian in the *British* Nation but what will, one way or other, assist to endow God's Hospital called *King's-College*.

The Work hath something in it that appears sacred, it is a Charity of the highest Order, and the Donors will esteem it as such, when they have read the Articles of the Foundation that are here under written.

Article I. This Establishment is to give Sums of Money to the Aged, the Sick, the Wounded, the Incurable, and such as shall come to Decay thro' adverse Fortune.

Article II. This Establishment is also to cloath and put out Orphans Apprentice, and set them up in their Trades at the Expiration of their Time.

Article III. This Establishment is likewise to put poor Widows and industrious Persons in a way of living in Time of Health ; it is to pay Prisoners Fees and small Debts, and to interr deceas'd Persons that leave behind them great Families.

Article IV. The Plan of the Foundation is laid thus ; the College will always keep two Registers, one called Christ's-Book, the other the Book of Remembrance.

Christ's Book is to register all Gifts and Legacies that shall at any Time be left by deceased Persons to endow the College ; it is also to register all Sums of Money that shall be raised by Subscriptions, and at publick and private Collections, and all other Contributions, that shall be order'd for the Support of the Collegians. It is likewise to register the Money paid, and for what Uses.

Article V. The Book of Remembrance is to register the Age, the Names, and Places of Abode of the Collegians ; it is also to register what State of Life they are in, as to Health or Sicknes, and what Relief they require from the College to answer their present Occasions.

Article VI. These Registers are to stand as Records to the End of Time: Christ's Book, that is to give an exact History what Sums of Money every Generation raised annually for the Use of God's Hospital, with the Names of the Donors.

The Book of Remembrance, that is to tell what Number of distressed Christians enters every Year upon this Foundation, and on what Account they petition'd to the College for Money.

According to the Degree of Peoples Quality, was only Five Shillings, and so down to Six-pence, to be paid quarterly, by every Person in good Circumstances in this City, and the Towns adjacent, that Sum would relieve more indigent Persons than all the Colleges and Hospitals now extant within the Weekly Bills of Mortality.

Upon this solemn Occasion, as it may be called, it is certain, that there are at this Time in *London*, Thousands of Families, and single Persons, that will advance much greater Sums than what are above specify'd, and embrace the Opportunity as a Demand sent them from God to endow this Foundation.

All honest and industrious Persons of every Religion, Language, or Nation, that are in Distress, they may truly be termed Christ's Poor; and if they are not taken Care of by the Rich, all other Acts of Virtue are but as hollow Echoes painted over to open a beautiful Scene to the World, like the fair Apples of *Sodom*.

Article VII. Widows and Orphans, and all industrious Persons, of either Sex, or of any Age, that come or send to the College for a Testimony sign'd by the Comptroller, they are to be esteemed as the Collegians of this Foundation.

The Copy of the said Testimony is as follows, viz.

Article VIII. This Precept is the Testimony of *King's-College*; it is to satisfy the Donors of the said College, that C. E. is intitled to take and receive the Benefits and Advantages of the said College as a Collegian, according to the printed Articles of the Foundation, dated *January* the Nineteenth, One thousand seven hundred twenty-five-six.

But so it is, this Testimony is to be null and void to all Intents and Purposes, provided that this Collegian cannot at the Time when he, or she, shall require Money from the College, make it fully appear, first to the Comptroler, and then to the Donors, that this Collegian never did receive any Pensions from any Parish, or Hospital, or Alms-House, nor begg'd in the Street, nor are lazy, nor rude, nor vitious.

But that his, or her present Distress, came through adverse Fortune, from and by no other Way and Means but what is common to befall honest and industrious Persons.

Number'd and Dated
the Day of

Signed

A. B. Comptroler.

This is the exact Copy of the Testimony that every Person is to receive from the College, at his or her Admittance as a Collegian, and no Testimony is to commence, or take Place, till Forty Days after it is dated, and the Number of the said Testimony enter'd in the Book of Remembrance.

Article IX. When any Testimony is taken out, neither the Age, the Trade, the Name, nor the Place of Abode of any Collegian, is to be set down in any Book or Books, at the College, that is only to be enter'd in the Testimony.

The Age, the Name, and Place of Abode is omitted in the Register at the College, because many Persons that

that are now in good Circumstances, may enter as Collegians unknown to the World, in order to be relieved at the College, in case any unforeseen Blow of Providence shall at any Time befall them: Besides, this will be an Inducement to such Persons that so enter as Collegians, to be Benefactors to the College during the Time of their Prosperity.

Article X. In Forty Days after the Date of the Testimony, in case any Collegian shall be so unhappy as to be in great Distress in any wise, and oblig'd to come to the College for Money, then every such Collegian is to write, or cause to be writ, upon the Backside of his, or her Testimony, their Case, (that is to say) what State they are in as to Health, or Sickness; and what Sum of Money they require from the College, and for what Use.

Article XI. When the said Collegian's Case is thus stated, the said Testimony is to be sent to the Visitor at the College, and he is to go and enquire into the Truth of the Fact, and make his Report to the Comptroller; and, if there shall appear any Fraud or Deceit in any wise, the said Testimony is to be null and void to all Intents and Purposes, and the said Collegian's Case will never be laid before the Donors.

Article XII. In Case any Person shall at any Time prove that the Visitor takes any Bribe, or Gift, or eats or drinks at any Place where he visits any Collegian, the said Person that shall so inform, will be paid as a Reward One Guinea out of the said Visitors Salary; and the said Visitor shall never after that Time be employed at the said College, in any Office, or Place whatever.

Article XIII. As to the Collegians Cases that shall appear to be fairly stated, every such Testimony will be pasted in a Book at the College, and the chief Contents of the said Case, is also to be register'd in the Book of Remembrance, against the Number enter'd in the said Testimony.

Article XIV. Every Testimony is to lie open in the Book in which it is pasted, three Months, to be perus'd by the Donors of the Foundation, and the said Collegians are to be relieved according to the Discretion of the said Donors, and no otherways.

Article XV. But it is provided, That in Case any Collegian shall be in want of the common Necessaries of Life, or be very aged, or sick, or wounded, or incurable, or dead, and leave not Money sufficient behind them to be decently inter'd. In all such Cases, upon Application made to the College, a publick Collection shall be immediately made for the Relief of every such Collegian, in the Way, and by the Method, as express'd in the two last Articles in this Treatise.

As this Foundation is established only for the Relief of God's Poor in time of Sicknefs, or in any other great Extremity, the inspired Volume of the Holy, Blessed, and Glorious Trinity, doth by the Decree of that sacred and written Law, now elect his Most Excellent Majesty King *GEORGE*, and the Royal Family. with the Nobility, Clergy, Gentry, and all other Persons of Worth, of either Sex, Protectors and Stewards to the Collegians of this Foundation.

It is a divine Honour to be Benefactors and Guardians to this Household of Christians; they are humble, and meek, and such as attend in the holy Temple, and approach the High Altar, and there drink the Blood of a Crucified Jesus.

This Charity will establish the Imperial Crown and Sceptre in the present Line, to the last Age of the World; it will bring Riches and Long-Life to the Sovereign, and to the Subject.

As

As this is not a common Charity, it is in the Name of the Eternal God most humbly petitioned, that every Person of Worth, according to his, or her Ability, acts in this Affair with as much Zeal and Resolution, as if the Success of their own Undertakings depended upon this very Point.

It is also intreated of every Person, either to subscribe, or to keep a Pocket-Book to take in Subscriptions, or to promote, or cause Collections to be frequently made in Churches, and Chapels, and in other Places of Divine Worship, and at publick Feasts and Assemblies, and at Anthems, and at Concerts, and at the Doors of the Theatres, and even at the Tea-Tables, and at common Visits.

If this be done, Christ's Poor will then be taken Care of in all the changeable Circumstances of Life; no Complaints will be heard any more from them in our Streets, their Voice will be turned into Thanks and Praise.

When the great Mr. *Herbert* put Money into the Box, at a Brief for Fire, or the Parish Pensioners, he used to say, Those Acts of Charity brought him Musick at Midnight, and would be Peace when agonizing Death appear'd with all his Terrors.

Then what Joy must it be to those Christians that shall raise Money, to endow God's Hospital; this Charity will allay the amazing Fears that approach, when the Face is bedew'd with a clammy Sweat, the Lips cold, the Hands stiff, the Joints tremble, and Life is just retiring to its last Fort the Heart, and when Death takes that Fort by Storm, and the Soul is forced to flee out of it like an Eagle, to seek for Refuge, then that Place of Refuge will be in the Regions beyond the fix'd Stars, where there is not one dis-tun'd Instrument ever heard to sound in all the Hallelujah of Praise.

King's-College may very well be called a Theatre to present deep Tragedies ; the Actors upon this Stage will be poor Widows and Orphans, the Aged, the Sick, the Wounded, and the Incurable, and such as are thrown down by cross Accidents ; these Objects will be seen to pass thro' Desarts, and Wilderernesses, where there is a Dearth of Corn and Wine.

Not but that the said Actors will always be in View of a fine Garden of Plenty, and behold Mines of Gold, and Tables fill'd with Variety of Dainties, but they must neither touch nor taste ; it is to them as the forbidden Fruit was to *Adam* and *Eve* in the midst of Paradise.

This is the perfect Emblem of the present State of great Numbers of God's Poor. These Objects of Mercy, they have hitherto been concealed from the Eye of Charity, as if they liv'd in Sepulchres, Tombs, or Charnel-Houses, they are ashamed to come out of their naked Grottoes to beg, and they have no Monitors to go abroad to tell the Rich of their Trouble.

To set forth their Case only in Writing, is sufficient to shock the Thoughts, and sink the Spirits of those Persons that never yet show'd any Mercy to poor Housekeepers, Widows or Orphans ; then what must the real Representation be to charitable Persons, that will now be told every Day in the Week of Hospirals that are not endow'd with any Gifts or Legacies, tho' the Wards are filled either with the Aged, the Sick, the Wounded, or the Incurable.

In these obscure Hospitals, there are no Divines, no Physicians, no Surgeons, no Nurses, nor one good Christian, to administer the least Relief to them.

They breathe out their last Breath in Groans and Sighs unseen, not heard, nor known by the rich *Dives's* of the Age.

When

When any of these Objects dye, their Corps are often to be seen stretch'd out upon the Floor, without either Shroud, or Coffin, or any to attend at their Funeral but the Parish-Bearers, or two or three poor neighbouring Inhabitants, that go to the Grave to offer up their last Mite of Charity to the Dead, tho' a starv'd and meagre Carcase, quite worn out with Hunger, Thirst, Nakedness, Pains, or Wounds.

Another Scene will be opened to the Donors of this Foundation, they will find in their Visits Families that are five or six in Number, and most of them small Children; these lie upon Flock or Straw Beds, with thin Coverings, and scarce any other Furniture about them, but a Wooden-Bench, a Joint-Stool, a Matted-Chair, a Tin-Kettle, and a few small Pieces of Earthen-Ware.

Another Scene will be opened to the Donors of this Foundation; they will find in their Visits Handycraft Tradesmen, Day-Labourers, and Servants, that for Want of Trade, Work, or Places, are quite exhausted, they have no Credit either for Bread, Cloaths, or Lodging.

Of Necessity these People must either starve, beg, steal, take Alms of the Parish, or sell themselves to the Plantations, where they will be oblig'd to labour as Slaves amongst transported Felons.

Another Scene will be opened to the Donors of this Foundation, they will find in their Visits, Persons advanc'd in Years, that are well descended, and once liv'd in Plenty, are now forced to dwell either in cold Garrets, damp Cellars, low Cottages, or in a Prison.

Many of these are dress'd in mean Habits, have pale Faces, and meagre Looks, with no Money in their Pockets, nor any Provision in the Cupboard.

Admit

Admit that such Objects as these should stoop to take a Pension from the Parish, or get into an Alms-House, Good God! What is Twenty-Pence, or Two-Shillings a Week, for to maintain a well-bred Man or Woman, in all Necessaries; it is but a sort of a genteel way of starving Christians to Death.

Another Scene will be opened to the Donors of this Foundation; they will find in their Visits, a great Company of young Persons that have no Fortune, tho' they are the Sons and Daughters of Gentlemen, eminent Merchants, and Shopkeepers, but reduced by Fire at Land, or by Wrecks at Sea, or some other grievous Exigencies.

Some of these, tho' but in the Bloom of Life, are of a bright Genius, and have great Thoughts, but are hid under a total Eclipse, and cannot shine forth in their Generation, for want of Apparel and Learning; and their Birth and Parts are above going to the Charity Schools, and to accept of a colour'd Coat and Cap.

But it is thought the Charity of God's Hospitall will now take Care of such young Branches, and either fit them for the University, or for Navigation, or put them out to Trades, whereby they may not be cast naked upon the World, and be tempted to act Crimes of the deepest dye; which fatal Necessity hath of late Years made Shipwreck of Virtue, Modesty, Chastity, and a good Conscience.

Article XVI. To put the Rich in mind, upon all Occasions, to endow this Foundation, the College will maintain a grave and genteel Man, to enquire out when and where there are any publick Feasts, or Assemblies, or Anthems, or Consorts, and go to the principal Persons concern'd, and desire them to make Collections for the Collegians, at the said Entertainments,

Article

Article XVII. This Person is also to wait upon the principal Inhabitants in every Parish in and about *London*, and prevail with them to make Collections for the said Collegians, in the Parish Church, or the Congregation to which they belong, and to appoint the Day when the said Collection shall be, that it may be put into the News-Papers, to give Notice to the Publick.

Article XVIII. This Person is likewise to apply himself, or make Interest to the principal Part of the Nobility, and Gentry, in order for them to get a Collection to be made for the said Collegians, at the Doors of the Theatres.

Article XIX. As a further Application to prevail with the Publick to endow this Foundation, the College will always maintain a Man called the Monitor, This Person hath a sort of a Drum, called the Dead-Larrum; it is cover'd with Black, and hath a Mourning Escutcheon fix'd upon it, and upon that Escutcheon there are, in large Characters, the following Words, *viz.*

Think of Death, and for Jesus's Sake, make Collections for the Collegians of the New College.

Article XX. This Monitor is frequently to go about the Town, and as he passes along, he is to beat the Dead-Larrum, and let the People read the Lines that are upon the said Mourning Escutcheon.

Article XXI. When any Gentleman, or Lady, or other Person, that takes in Subscriptions, or makes a Collection for the Collegians, if desired, they may have the said Monitor to attend them *gratis*, for to stand at the Door, and beat the Dead-Larrum, as an Exhortation to Charity.

Article XXII. All Persons whatever, that shall at any Time raise Money either by Subscription, or Collections, or by Gifts, or Legacies, or by any other Way or Means, they, or their Assigns, are always to be the Treasurers, and to pay the said Cash with their own Hands to such of the Collegians as they shall think to be the greatest Objects of Mercy.

Article XXIII. But this is always to be understood, that the said Donors are to have all such Sums of Money register'd in Christ's-Book at the College, and for what Use the said Money was apply'd to: This may be done, only by sending the Account in a Penny-Post Letter to the Comptroller; and, if they think fit, their own Names, and Places of Abode, shall also be register'd.

Article XXIV. Those that shall voluntarily subscribe in Christ's-Book any Sum or Sums of Money, as their own Donation, they are to write under the following Preamble, viz.

We whose Names are hereunto subscribed, do voluntarily promise to pay, or cause to be paid, to the Collegians of King George's College, the Sums of Money by us respectively underwritten, for and towards the advancing and carrying on so Great and Universal a Charity.

Article XXV.

Article XXV. Such Persons as have not a mind to be known to the World, nor to register their Names in Christ's-Book, if they come or send to the College, they may take a List out of the Book of Remembrance *gratis*, of the Names and Places of Abode of such of the Collegians as they shall think fit to relieve, or, at their Desire, the said Collegians will be sent to the Donors Habitations, or to any other Place that they shall appoint.

Article XXVI. It is always to stand as a fix'd Covenant, that no Person or Persons, that now hath, or shall at any Time hereafter have any Post or Office in this College, shall ever receive, or pay any Sum, or Sums of Money whatever, that shall be appointed for the Collegians.

This Article is made, that it may be entirely put out of the Power of any Manager or Servant in the said College, from either concealing or expending any Money that shall ever be raised or given to endow this Foundation.

Article XXVII. If any Servant, or other Person, that belongs to the College, shall ever offer to take any Charity-Money, upon any Pretence whatever, it is hoped the Donors will look upon that Person as a publick Cheat, and
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give Notice thereof to the Heads of the said College, and the Offender shall be prosecuted according to the utmost Severity of the Law.

Article XXVIII. It is also a fixed Covenant of this Establishment, that no Salaries, nor Rent, nor any other Charge whatever, shall at any Time, or Times, either be demanded, or required to be paid out of the Donors Cash; all the Money given by them is wholly to be employed for Charitable Uses only.

Article XXIX. The Foundation is settled upon these strict Rules and Orders, to the End that all charitable Persons may endow a College, where they will be certain their Money can never be misemployed in any Point whatever.

Upon these Considerations, it may be reasonably expected, that the Money raised to endow this Foundation, will, in a very great Degree, provide for all the Collegians, that shall at any Time want the Assistance of this College; and if so, that will keep great Numbers of Persons from being Parish-Pensioners; and then many House-keepers, that have great Families, small Stocks, and but little Trade, may be left out of the Poor's-Rate.

Article XXX. To provide for the present Relief of such of the Collegians as are real Objects of Charity, and must be immediately taken Care of, it is ordered, That in in Case any of the
said

said Collegians are in such Distress, as to want the common Necessaries of Life, or are very aged, or sick, or wounded, or incurable, or dead, and hath not left sufficient behind them to be decently buried ; upon every such Occasion, if Application shall be made to the College, the Method will be made use of according to the two ensuing Articles.

Article XXXI. The Monitor will fix upon the Escutcheon that is upon the Dead Larrum, a Paper called the Sick-List, which said List will tell, that at such a House, and at such a Place, without mentioning the Collegians Name, there then lies a Person in very great Distress, and all good Christians are desired to send some immediate Relief.

Article XXXII. With this Paper fix'd upon the said Escutcheon, the Monitor is to go into the Neighbourhood where the said Collegian lives, and there, in several Streets, and Courts round about, he is to beat the Dead-Larrum, and let the People read the Sick-List, or read it himself, in Case it shall be desired, by the said Collegian, or any of his or her Relations or Friends.

It is now most humbly intreated for God's Sake, for Christ's Sake, and the Holy Spirit, that whenever any Person shall hear the Dead Larrum beat upon this emergent Occasion, that they then read the Sick-List, and either go or send forthwith to visit the said Object ; a small
Piece

Piece of Money, at such a Time, may revive a poor Soul, tho' it is just passing through the Regions of Death, where it will be strip'd into a naked Spirit, and set on Shore in the invisible World.



Think of Death, and do Good Works.





*This Plan was laid upon the 4th
and 5th of November, and the
Preface writ on the 19th of Ja-
nuary, being the Birth-Day of the
Illustrious Prince FREDERICK,
Son to his Royal Highness the
Prince of WALES.*

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